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GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services - Andhra Pradesh Forest Department – Illegal mining of Laterite in Compt. No.632 of Thotapalli Reserve Forest, Yeleswaram Range in East Godavari District – Irregularities noticed – Common disciplinary proceedings initiated – Inquiry under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991 against **Sri. N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o Assistant Director of Mines & Geology, Rajamahendravaram** – Article of Charges – Issued - Regarding.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Sec.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt. No.56 **Dated:09.06.2022**

Read the following:

1) From the Director General, Vigilance & Enforcement Department, Vigilance Report No.06 (C.No.1563/V&E/NR.1/2015), dated 21.01.2018.
2) Memo.No.887/Sec.IV/A1/2018-4, EFS & T (Sec.IV) Dept., dated 01.01.2019.

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ORDER:

It is proposed to hold an inquiry against Sri. N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o Assistant Director of Mines & Geology, Rajamahendravaram presently working at O/o ADM&G, Eluru in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules,1991.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of articles of charges (Annexure – II). A list of documents by which, and a list of witnesses by whom, the articles of charges are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexure III & IV).

3. Sri. N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o Assistant Director of Mines & Geology, Rajamahendravarm presently working at ADM&G, Eluru is directed to submit his written statement of defense (WSD) within 10 days from the date of receipt of this order.

4. Sri. N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o ADM&G, Rajamahendravaram presently working at ADM&G, Eluru is informed that, an inquiry will be held only in respect of those articles of charges as are not admitted. He should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each article of charge.

5. Sri. N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o ADM&G, Rajamahendravaram presently working at ADM&G, Eluru is further informed that if he does not submit his written statement of defense (WSD) on or before the date specified in para 3 above, further action will be processed based on the material available.

6. Attention of Sri. N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o ADM&G, Rajamahendravaram presently working at ADM&G, Eluru is invited to Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, under which no Government Servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interest

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in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt within these proceedings it will be presumed that Sri. N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o ADM&G, Rajamahendravaram presently working at ADM&G, Eluru is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at his instance and action will be taken against him for violation of Rule-24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules,1991.

7. The receipt of theis order may be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o Assistant Director of Mines & Geology, Rajamahendravaram, presently working at O/o ADM & G, Eluru.

Copy to:

The Director of Mines & Geology, Ibrahimpatnam (He is requested to serve the order on the individual, obtain his dated acknowledgment on the duplicate copy and resubmit the same to Government for record)
SF/SC (Computer No.1012303)

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

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ANNEXURE-I

STATEMETN OF ARTICLES OF CHARGES AGAINST SRI N. CHALLALU, THE THEN SURVEYOR, O/O ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MINES & GEOLOGY, RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM PRESENTLY WORKING AT ADM&G, ELURU.

CHARGE-1

That Sri N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o Assistant Director of Mines and Geology, Rajamahendravaram presently working at ADM&G, Eluru working as Surveyor noticed certain irregularities during his tenure.

Sri N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o Assistant Director of Mines and Geology, Rajamahendravaram colluded with the lessee firm and certified that the mining operations are within the applied area, even though aware that the lessee had encroached into the forest. Thus the delinquent officer totally failed to perform his legitimate duties and he is held responsible for the same and violated Rule 3 of APCS (Conduct) Rule, 1964.

CHARGE-2

Sri N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o Assistant Director of Mines and Geology, Rajamahendravaram fallaciously reported that there was a mining lease in Sy. No. 262/1 of Gajjanapudi Village in favour of M/s Parameswari Minerals and showed in the sketch at point "A" during the inspection of three mining lease areas applied in the year 2014.

Thus the delinquent officer totally failed to perform his legitimate duties and he is held responsible for the same and violated Rule 3 of APCS (Conduct) Rule, 1964.

CHARGE-3

Sri N. Challalu, the then Surveyor, O/o Assistant Director of Mines and Geology, Rajamahendravaram failed to perform his legitimate duties during his tenture and expressed different opinions in different joint surveys leading to illegal mining of about 9.95 lakhs MT, worth Rs.59.74 crores.

Thus the delinquent officer totally failed to perform his legitimate duties and he is held responsible for the same and violated Rule 3 of APCS (Conduct) Rule, 1964.

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

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ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATIONS ON MISCONDUCT/MISBEHAVIOR IN SUPPORT TO THE CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI. N. CHALLALU, THE THEN SURVEYOR, O/O ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MINES & GEOLOGY, RAJAMAHENDRAVARM PRESENTLY WORKING AT ADM&G, ELURU THE FOLLOWING IRREGULARITIES HAVE BEEN TAKEN PLACE DURING HIS TENURE.

Sri N. Challalu, while worked as surveyor in O/o Assistant Director of Mines & Geology, Rajamahendravaram, from 05.06.1995 to 09.08.2002 and from 13.06.2008 to 26.11.2014, during his tenure the following irregularities have been taken place.

During the joint survey conducted from 03.10.1997 to 06.10.1997 along with Sri. P.V.T. Siva Kumar, the then Mandal Surveyor of Prathipadu, he has mentioned that the area allotted to M/s Parameswari Minerals and the area where mining operations are going on is one and the same. But the area in which mining operations were going on was in the area outside Sy.No. 262 of Gajjanapudi. Subsquently the area where mining operations were conducted was in Thotapalli Reserve Forest, but not in Gajjanapudi. As a surveyor, he should have identified the survey number. He failed to report the same, rather misled the authorities and also failed to take any action.

Having served as Surveyor for long duration from 5.06.1995 to 9.08.2002 and from 13.06.2008 to 26.11.2014, he should have visited the lease area in regular intervals and conducted inspections as per the guidelines of the Director of Mines & Geology. He should ascertain whether that the lessees are working within the boundaries of the lease hold area or not and report the same. He has to reconcile the mineral along with technical staff each financial year. But he had failed to do so.

Further, he failed to inspect the said mining lease area during his tenure except the joint surveys conducted by the Mines and Geology Department based on the petitions filed by other individuals.

Further, when he accompanied the joint survey from 09.07.2014 to 03.09.2014 to ascertain the areas of fresh leasing applications of three applicants he noticed that no excavations were carried out in the mining lease area of M/s Parameswari Minerals. Inspite of the fact that he knew that M/s Parameswari Minerals had excavated in Thotapalli Reserve Forest, though the forest cairns were erected by the Forest Department Officials during February, 2014 which were passing through the excavated area, But he failed to report the same to higher authorities. His contention that he informed regarding illegal mining by M/s Parameswari Minerals during 2003 check survey is also not correct as in the check survey report dt. 04.02.2003, it was informed that M/s Parameswari Minerals deviated the mining area only, but not about the encroachment into Thotapalli Reserve Forest.

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

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ANNEXURE – III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BY WHICH THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAISNT SRI. N. CHALLALU, THE THEN SURVEYOR, O/O ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MINES & GEOLOGY, RAJAMAHENDRAVARM PRESENTLY WORKING AT ADM&G, ELURU

1) From the GA(V&E) Dept. Vigilance Report No : 06, (C.No. 1563/V&E/NR-1/2015, Dt. 21.01.2018.)
2) C.No. 369/94 Dt. 10.10.97 from Mandal Revenue Officer, Prathipadu.(Vigilance Report Annexure- 8).
3) Check Survey Report on the Mining Lease Area held by M/s Parameswari Minerals in Sy.No. 262 of Gajjanapudi Village Prathipadu Mandal East Godavari District. (Vigilance Report Annexure – 10).
4) Survey Report on Sy.No. 262 of Gajjanapudi Village. (Vigilance Report Annexure-13).
5) Rc. No.8648/2013/D1, Dt. 03.02.2014. from District Forest Officer, Kakinada Division, Kakinada.
6) Rc. No.486/2012, Dt. 25.01.2014. from Forest Range Officer, Yeleswaram.

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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ANNEXURE – IV

LIST OF WITNESSES BY WHICH THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI. N. CHALLALU, THE THEN SURVEYOR, O/O ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MINES & GEOLOGY, RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM PRESENTLY WORKING AT ADM & G, ELURU

1.Sri. N. Surya Rao, Mandal Revenue Officer, Prathipadu, East Godavari District.
2.U. Rama Murthy, Assistant Mines Officer, Mines & Geology Department.
3.Sri. T. Nooka Raju, Surveyor, O/o ADM&G, Vishakapatnam.
4.Sri. K. Rama Rao Surveyor, O/o AD Survey & Land Records, Kakinada.
5.Sri. N. Ekasi, Deputy Inspector of Surveys O/o Revenue Divisional Office, Peddapuram.
6.Sri. M. Srinivas, Mandal Surveyor, O/o Tahsildhar, Allavaram.
7.Sri. V. Venkata Ramana, AE, R&B, Amalapuram.
8.Sri. P.V.S. Prasad, Mandal Surveyor, O/o Tahsildhar, Prathipadu, East Godavari District.
9.Sri. T.V. Subba Reddy, District Forest Officer, Kakinada Division, Kakinada.
10.Sri. T. Sri sai, Forest Range Officer, Yeleswaram.

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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